

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A laryngeal mask (1) comprising

- an airway tube (2) having a lumen (7); and
- a mask portion (3),

said mask portion (3) comprising

- an inflatable cuff (9); and
- an intermediary portion forming a transition (6) from said airway

tube (2) to said inflatable cuff (9),

wherein the airway tube (2) and the intermediary portion are integrally moulded, and the inflatable cuff (9) has a first peripheral edge integrally moulded with said intermediary portion and a second peripheral edge (15) connected to said intermediary portion by a joint (16, 17).

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The laryngeal mask according to claim 1, wherein ~~in general the~~an average wall thickness of the ~~an~~ inflatable part of the cuff is smaller than ~~the general~~an average wall thickness of the airway tube (2).

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The laryngeal mask according to claim 2, wherein the wall thickness of the inflatable part of the cuff is comprised within a closed first interval (111) having lower and upper values "a", "b", the wall thickness of the airway tube (2) is comprised within a closed second interval having lower and upper values "c", "d", and the upper value "d" exceeds the upper value "b".

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The laryngeal mask according to claim ~~1~~3, wherein an outer contour of an inner circumference of the cuff (9) is ~~essentially~~ elliptical, drop-shaped, annularly extending or a variety thereof.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The laryngeal mask according to claim 4, wherein an average ~~the general~~ wall thickness of the intermediary portion of the mask portion (3) is smaller than ~~the general~~ an average wall thickness of the airway tube (2), and larger than ~~the general~~ an average wall thickness of the cuff (9).

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The laryngeal mask according to claim 5, wherein the wall thickness of the intermediary portion of the mask portion (3) is comprised within a third interval whose lower limit is larger than the lower limit "a" of the first interval (111).

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The laryngeal mask according to claim 6, wherein the cuff (9), the intermediary portion of the mask portion (3) and/or the airway tube (2) has/have sections of a larger or smaller wall thickness than the ~~general~~ average wall thickness of these parts.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The laryngeal mask according to claim 7, wherein the wall thickness of the inflatable part of the cuff (9) exhibits varying material thicknesses comprised within the first interval (111).

9. (Currently Amended) AThe laryngeal mask according to claim 1, wherein the laryngeal mask further comprises a rigid tubing (114) in extension of the airway tube (2) which is ~~completely or~~ at least partially enclosed by an outer jacket (117) configured as an integral part of the airway tube (2).

10. (Currently Amended) AThe laryngeal mask according to claim 9, wherein the rigid tubing (114) comprises guides in its surface.

11. (Currently Amended) AThe laryngeal mask according to claim 1, wherein the airway tubing (2) comprises reinforcing ribs (22) that are integral with the airway tube (2) and axially parallel with a central axis thereof.

12. (Currently Amended) AThe laryngeal mask according to claim 1, wherein said ~~maks~~mask is manufactured in an injection moulding process and from an elastic polymer material.

13. (Currently Amended) AThe laryngeal mask according to claim 1, wherein the airway tube (2) comprises at least one sensory indicator bead (10) comprising ribs on an outer face of the tube (2).

14. (Currently Amended) AThe laryngeal mask according to claim 1, wherein the mask portion (3) comprises an additional inflatable bellows

(11) arranged on or constituting an integral part of a top face (4) of the intermediary portion of the mask portion (3).

15. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The laryngeal mask according to claim 1, wherein the cuff (9) of the mask portion (3) comprises at least two inflatable lateral bellows (12) that are arranged on a top face (4) of the mask and essentially in parallel with a longitudinal axis of the cuff.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The laryngeal mask according to claim 1, wherein at least the mask portion (3) is coated with a lubricant and/or antibacterial agent.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The laryngeal mask according to claim 1, wherein the transition face (8) comprises reinforcing ribs.

18. (Previously Presented) A method of manufacturing a laryngeal mask (1) comprising

- an airway tube (2) having a lumen (7); and
- a mask portion (3),

said mask portion (3) comprising

- an inflatable cuff (9); and
- an intermediary portion forming a transition (8) from said airway tube (2) to said inflatable cuff (9),

said process comprising

- injection moulding of the airway tube (2), the intermediary portion and the cuff (9) having an annularly extending opening (13) between a second peripheral edge (15) of said cuff (9) and said intermediary portion integrally in a closed mould part (101) in a first step,

- ejecting the airway tube (2), the intermediary portion and the cuff (9) having the annularly extending opening (13) from the mould (101) in a second step, and

- providing a closed inflatable cuff (9) by closing of the annularly extending opening (13) by assembling the second peripheral edge (15) with said intermediary portion by a joint (16,17).

19. (Currently Amended) AThe method according to claim 18, wherein a distance between the second peripheral edge (15) and the intermediary portion at the annularly extending opening (13) is 1-8 mm.

20. (Currently Amended) AThe method according to claim 18 , wherein

- liquid polymer material is injected into a closed mould (101) at a first pressure and a first temperature, wherein the mould (101) comprises at least one core (102) for providing the inner cavity in tube and mask portions, wherein the mould (101) also comprises two first mould parts, an upper first mould part (104) and a lower first mould part (105), whose

interfaces (106) comprise a first interface (107) that is situated in the area corresponding to a lower face (5) of the mask and movable perpendicular to each other's interface (107); and wherein the mould (101) also comprises two further second mould parts (108), whose second movement pattern is perpendicular to the movement line of the first mould part;

- the lower first mould part (105) is moved away from the upper mould part (104);

- the two second mould parts (108) are moved away from each other by use of second movement pattern;

- the core (102) is subsequently moved in the same direction as the lower first mould part (105); and

- the laryngeal mask (1) is finished by ejection from the mould and closing of the annularly extending opening (13).

21. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 20, wherein ~~the entire or~~ portions of the surface of the core (102) is/are rough.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 18, wherein ~~the~~a periphery of the mask portion is formed by an upper and a lower periphery configured by a tongue/groove arrangement, also known as a male/female arrangement, that is subsequently assembled against each other for providing an essentially closed peripheral cuff (9).

23. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 18, wherein a rigid tubing (114) is arranged in extension of the airway tubing (2) to the effect that an outer jacket configured as an integral part of the airway ~~completely or at least~~ partially encloses the outer faces of the rigid tubing (114).

24. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 23, wherein the airway tube (2) and the mask portion (3) are moulded around the rigid tubing (114).

25. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 24, wherein the airway tube (2), the mask portion (3) and the rigid tubing (114) are manufactured from the same polymer material.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 18, wherein a tube (18) is subsequently mounted on the peripheral cuff (9) of the laryngeal mask (1), which tube (18) is at the other end provided with a valve (19) and pilot balloon (20).

27. (Canceled).

28. (Currently Amended) A laryngeal mask (1') comprising at least one airway tube (2') and a mask portion (3'), which mask portion (3') comprises a top face (4') and a bottom face (5'), said bottom face (5') comprising a lumen (6') that communicates with the tube (2') interior

(7'), and said top face (4') comprising a closed transition face (8'), said mask portion (3) being at least on the bottom face in the periphery delimited by an inflatable cuff (9'), wherein the cuff (9') of the mask portion (3') comprises inflatable means for ~~abutment~~abutment against a wall of a pharynx opposite a laryngeal opening for providing a tight connection of the mask portion and the laryngeal opening; and passages are formed between these abutment means and the top face (4') of the mask portion.

29. (Currently Amended) AThe laryngeal mask (1') according to claim 28, wherein the cuff (9') of the mask portion (3') comprises at least two inflatable lateral bellows (12') that are arranged on the top face (4') of the mask (1') and an symmetrical about a longitudinal axis of the cuff (9').

30. (Currently Amended) AThe laryngeal mask (1) according to claim 1, wherein the cuff (9) comprises a reinforced section (23) foremost on a top face of the cuff (9).